

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for ligament reconstruction comprising:

a tip having at least two parallel through-holes formed ~~therein~~ in juxtaposition within said tip;

a rear-end having two through-holes formed ~~therein~~ in juxtaposition within said rear-end and extending coaxially with said ~~[[two]]~~ through-holes of said tip; and

a connector which connects said rear-end and said tip, wherein said connector has ~~a single~~ at least one connection hole connecting at least one of said through-holes of said tip ~~portion~~ coaxially to at least one of said through-holes of said rear-end, wherein said connector is thinner and longer than said tip and said rear-end, and wherein said tip has a generally elliptical or rectangular cross section elongated in a direction in which said through-holes ~~thereof of said tip~~ are juxtaposed, said rear-end being configured to drive said tip and connector into a bone.

2. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the generally elliptical or rectangular cross section has a major axis/minor axis ratio of 2 to 5.
3. (Currently Amended) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the elliptical cross section ~~is of~~ has a generally oval shape or a racetrack-like elliptical shape.
4. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 3, wherein the racetrack-like elliptical shape is defined by a pair of parallel straight lines spaced a distance of 3mm to 6mm from each other and each having a length of 4mm to 8mm and a pair of semicircles connecting opposite ends of the straight lines.
5. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the rectangular cross section has a minor edge length of 3mm to 6mm and a major edge length of 7mm to 14mm.
6. (Currently Amended) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said tip has a cross sectional area of 21mm^2 to 84mm^2 .
7. (Currently Amended) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim

1, wherein [[the]] said tip has a length of 5mm to 10mm.

8. (Currently Amended) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in [[any]] claim 1, wherein [[the]] said connector has a generally round or oval cross section.

9. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the ligament reconstruction device is configured to reconstruct an anterior cruciate ligament graft.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for ligament reconstruction utilizing a ligament reconstruction device as recited in claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:

drilling a guide pin into an articular bone;

fitting the guide pin in two of the through-holes and the connection hole of the ligament reconstruction device aligned with each other, and drilling another guide pin into the articular bone through the other two through-holes of the ligament reconstruction device;

removing portions of the bone around the previously-inserted two guide pins by over-drilling; and

driving the tip of the ligament reconstruction device into the articular bone toward a lateral cortex of the articular bone by hitting the rear-end of the ligament reconstruction device with the two guide pins respectively fitted in the two

through-holes and the connection hole of the ligament reconstruction device aligned with each other and in the other two through-holes of the ligament reconstruction device to form a flat socket into which one end portion of a ligament graft is to be inserted.

11. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the flat socket has a depth of 10mm to 23mm.

12. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the ligament graft is an anterior cruciate ligament graft with a bone piece.

13. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the ligament reconstruction is reconstruction of an anterior cruciate ligament graft, and the articular bone is a femur.

14. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said generally elliptical or rectangular cross section is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal extending direction of said through-holes of said tip.

15. (Currently Amended) A device for ligament reconstruction comprising:

a tip having either one of a generally rectangular or generally elliptical cross-section, wherein said tip has generally parallel first and second tip through-holes formed in juxtaposition ~~inside of~~ within said rectangular or elliptical cross-section;

a rear-end having generally parallel first and second rear-end through-holes formed therein in juxtaposition, and wherein said first and second rear-end through-holes extend coaxial with said first and second tip through-holes, respectively; and

a connector which connects said rear-end and said tip, wherein said connector has a connection hole which connects one of said first and second tip through-holes coaxially with one of said first and second rear-end through-holes, wherein said connector is thinner and longer than both said tip and said rear-end, said rear-end being configured to drive said tip and connector into a bone.

16. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 15, wherein the generally elliptical or rectangular cross section has a major axis/minor axis ratio of about 2 to about 5.

17. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 15, wherein the elliptical cross section is of a generally oval shape or a racetrack-like elliptical shape.

18. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 17, wherein the racetrack-like elliptical shape is defined by a pair of parallel straight lines spaced a distance of about 3mm to about 6mm from each other and each having a length of about 4mm to about 8mm and a pair of semicircles connecting opposite ends of the straight lines.

19. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 15, wherein the rectangular cross section has a minor edge length of about 3mm to about 6mm and a major edge length of about 7mm to about 14mm.

20. (Previously Presented) The ligament reconstruction device as set forth in claim 15, wherein [[the]] said tip has a cross sectional area of about 21mm^2 to about 84mm^2 .